


point 3

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT
JUNE 2004

The magazine of  **TOC H**



**See inside for details of our 90th birthday celebrations at
Coventry Cathedral - don't miss your chance to book your place!**



Happy Birthday Toc H

*We celebrate
a movement
that will be
90 years
young*

One of the most exciting days in next year's diaries will be Saturday June 25th when Toc H celebrates its 90th birthday.

Coventry Cathedral will be the dramatic backdrop for an afternoon service due to be attended by Toc H folk from around the globe. Invitations have already been sent to senior royal figures and Church leaders, and to many key people from the worlds of faith, community, education, and caring.

The beginnings and work of Toc H will be highlighted by a giant on-screen projection of aspects ranging from Poperinge and the hell of the trenches to today's community groups and Talbot Centres.

At the end of the service, in keeping with the Toc H tradition of hospitality, a cup of tea will be served to anyone who turns up, whether they are members of Toc H or the general public. The cups of tea served are likely to run into thousands.

Relevant

On the morning before the service, a major conference will be held in Coventry to examine issues which are as relevant now as they were when Toc H was founded. Professor Paul Rogers, an international specialist in peace and reconciliation issues, will be the

The Albert Hall box, R

When former Toc H General Secretary Rex Calkin bequeathed a box at the Royal Albert Hall, it was his intention to help introduce young people to good music.

Times have changed. Since then, opinions of what is "good" music have altered and young people are often those with the most to spend on attending concerts.

But Rex's generous gift to Toc H is still as welcome to the organisation as it was when it was received in his will following his death in 1967, and provides a valuable source of income.

Under a change of administration for allocating tickets, Central Services will now deal with requests.

Using the box

The National Management Committee has been looking at ways to widen access to the box in

keeping with Rex's will.

Three kinds of use were considered:

Social and recreational use by the general membership for which payment will be asked. As now, a mailing list will be issued from Central Services, and bookings will be taken at Central Services. However, there will no longer be a charge made for being on the list from 1 January 2005 but a small administration charge will be added to each ticket.

Use by participants in Toc H programmes such as the *inTOuCH* projects, youth mentoring and family support.

Links could be established with the City Academies to provide opportunities for students to attend conferences and events.

Promotional and hospitality events to thank sponsors of Toc H, to elicit support for Toc H from potential

donors, and to offer hospitality to Toc H supporters.

Benefactor Rex had a long and distinguished association with Toc H, taking on the role of Honorary Archivist on his retirement in 1962.

He became a full-time official in 1925, welding scattered London units into a vigorous and lively District, and became General Secretary in 1931. Rex temporarily transferred to Australia for a year in 1934, returning to work in the London office.

During the Second World War he joined the team serving Toc H with the British Expeditionary Force. He was captured in 1940 and spent four years as a civilian prisoner of war. On his return from captivity until his retirement in 1962, Rex continued in his role as General Secretary. He had been badly wounded in the First World War, serving as a captain with the Queen's Westminsters.

H - for next June 2005

keynote speaker on the topic
'Peace, Imperfect Peace'

And the evening before the service will combine an in-depth briefing for those helping with the event with the annual staff gathering. The service will fall into the West Midlands Region area and the Walsall branch has already volunteered to help with stewarding; but this is your chance to show your support for Toc H by adding your name to the volunteers who will not only steward but also perform the myriad of other tasks that will need to be done.

Toc H celebrated other major birthdays in 1995 at St Clement Dane's Church, in 1928 at Coventry and many gatherings at the Albert Hall.



Scene of devastation – the ruins of the original Coventry Cathedral.
Photograph (and Special Edition front cover photograph) courtesy of Coventry Cathedral.

Now please turn over and fill in the back page of the Birthday Special: numbers are limited for a place in the Cathedral, and volunteers are needed soon for briefing and bookings. So please make your interest known as soon as you have finished reading this article!

Rex's gift to Toc H

In a Point 3 tribute to him following his death, Rex was described as a perfectionist. It said: "Nothing but the best was good enough. If he was often critical of Toc H in its human manifestations, it was not from cynicism but because he loved it too dearly to be content with second best. . . Toc H will probably never know how much it owes to Rex."

This month's offerings at the Royal Albert Hall include a Russian Gala Night on the 20th, a Young Disciples Gospel Concert on the 22nd and a Gala Organ Recital on the 27th.

Right: Toc H Chief Executive Geoff Smith with a model of the Royal Albert Hall.



You will find a flyer with this special mailing which you can return to Central Services if you are interested in using the Albert Hall box.

TOC H 90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT COVENTRY CATHEDRAL Saturday 25th June 2005

PLEASE FILL IN AS APPROPRIATE AND IN CAPITALS

I would like to apply for (please state number) places at the service in the Cathedral in the afternoon

I would like to apply for (please state number) places at the conference at the Leofric Hotel in the morning

I would like accommodation for

(please state number) people

(please state number) single rooms

(please state number) twin-bedded rooms

at the Leofric Hotel on Friday 24th June 2005 (prices to be confirmed)

Name

Address

Postcode Day tel

I use email regularly and can be contacted at this email address

You can post this form back to

Central Services, The Firs, High Street, Whitchurch, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 4JU

OR fax back to 01296 640022

